

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims, in which deleted matter is either struck-through or enclosed in double brackets, and added material (except for newly presented claims) is underlined, replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

1. (Currently Amended) A timing element comprising a delay composition wherein the delay composition comprises a solid core of cross-linked reactive polymeric material and, optionally, one or both of a fuel component and an oxidizer component ~~dispersed within the solid core of the reactive polymeric material, the reactive polymeric material being~~ enclosed in a sheath.
2. (Previously Presented) The timing element of claim 1 wherein the reactive polymeric material comprises a GAP material.
3. (Previously Presented) The timing element of claim 2 wherein the reactive polymeric material comprises a cross-linked GAP acrylic material.
4. (Previously Presented) The timing element of claim 2 wherein the reactive polymeric material comprises a cross-linked GAP urethane material.
5. (Currently Amended) The timing element of claim 2 wherein the further comprising an oxidizer component ~~[[is]] dispersed within the solid core of the reactive polymeric material and present therein~~ as a pulverulent oxidizer material.
6. (Previously Presented) The timing element of claim 5 wherein the oxidizer component comprises about 0.25% to about 10% of the delay composition, by weight.
7. (Currently Amended) The timing element of claim 2 or claim 5 wherein the further comprising a fuel component ~~[[is]] dispersed within the solid core of the reactive polymeric material and present therein~~ as a pulverulent fuel in an amount of about 0.25 to about 2% of the delay composition, by weight.

8. (Currently Amended) The timing element of claim 7 wherein the pulverulent fuel component comprises about 0.25% to about 2% ~~1~~ percent of the delay composition, by weight.

9. (Currently Amended) The timing element of claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the sheath comprises one or more of ~~polyacrylonitriles~~ polyacrylonitrile, polybutadiene, polystyrene, ABS copolymer, polyphenylene oxide, polysulfone, cellulose acetate butyrate, and modified ethylene acrylate polymeric material.

10. (Currently Amended) A method for making a timing element, the method comprising disposing a curable precursor resin of a reactive polymeric material in a sheath, ~~the resin optionally having one or both of a fuel component and an oxidizer component~~, and then cross-linking the curable precursor resin to form a solid core of cross-linked reactive polymeric material in the sleeve sheath.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 wherein the sheath sleeve comprises a polymeric material, the method comprising injecting the curable precursor resin into a sleeve under pressure sufficient to expand the diameter of the sheath sleeve by about 0.4% to about 1.2%.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 wherein the curable precursor resin comprises a GAP resin and a cross-linking agent.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12 wherein ~~one or both of the~~ an oxidizer component and the fuel component is present in the resin as[[.]] ~~respectively, a pulverulent oxidizing material and a pulverulent fuel.~~

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13 wherein the oxidizer component is present in an amount of about 0.25% to about ~~[[2%]]~~ 10% of the delay composition cross-linked reactive polymeric material, by weight.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12 or claim 13 wherein ~~[[the]]~~
a fuel component is present in the resin as a pulverulent fuel component in an amount of
~~about 0.25 to about 2% of the delay composition, by weight.~~

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 wherein the curable
precursor resin comprises at least about 20% DPEHA.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 wherein the curable
precursor resin comprises from about 20% to about 40% DPEHA.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17 wherein the curable
precursor resin comprises at least about 29% DPEHA.

19. (Currently Amended) In an initiator comprising:
a shell having a closed end and an opening for a signal transmission
tube;
an output charge in the closed end of the shell;
a signal transmission fuse secured in the opening; and
a timing element in the shell situated to be initiated by the fuse and to
initiate the output charge,
the improvement comprising that the timing element comprises a solid
core of cross-linked reactive polymeric material ~~and, optionally, one or both of a fuel~~
~~component and an oxidizer component dispersed within the reactive polymeric material.~~

20. (Previously Presented) The initiator of claim 19 wherein the solid core of
reactive polymeric material is encased in a sheath.

21. (Original) The initiator of claim 19 or claim 20 wherein the reactive
polymeric material comprises a GAP material.

22 - 27. (Cancelled)

28. (New) The timing element of claim 7 wherein the fuel component is present in an amount of about 1% of the delay composition, by weight.

29. (New) The method of claim 15 wherein the fuel component is present in an amount of about 0.25 to about 2% of the cross-linked reactive polymeric material, by weight.

30. (New) The initiator of claim 19 wherein the improvement further comprises that the solid core of reactive polymeric material contains a fuel component dispersed within the reactive polymeric material.

31. (New) The initiator of claim 19 wherein the improvement further comprises that the solid core of reactive polymeric material contains an oxidizer component dispersed within the reactive polymeric material.

32. (New) The initiator of claim 31 wherein the oxidizer component and the fuel component are each present as respective pulverulent materials, the oxidizer component comprising about 0.25% to about 10% of the reactive polymeric material, by weight, and the fuel component comprising about 0.25 to about 2% of the reactive polymeric material, by weight.

33. (New) A timing element comprising a delay composition wherein the delay composition comprises a solid core of cross-linked reactive polymeric material containing a fuel component and an oxidizer component, both components being dispersed within the solid core of the reactive polymeric material, the reactive polymeric material being enclosed in a sheath.